

CLAIMS:

We claim:

1. A wireless mass storage reflector comprising:
a wireless data transceiver coupled to a plug-and-play adapter configured for connection to a personal computing device;
a device selector disposed in said reflector; and,
device interface logic coupled both to said wireless data transceiver and said device selector and programmed to map mass storage in said personal computing device as specified by said device selector to a shared resource over a wireless network established through said wireless data transceiver without exposing a peer-to-peer wireless network to a remote computing device.
2. The device of claim 1, wherein said wireless data transceiver comprises a transceiver selected from the group consisting of a Bluetooth(TM) transceiver and an 802.11x transceiver.
3. The device of claim 1, wherein said plug-and-play adapter comprises a universal serial bus (USB) adapter.
4. The device of claim 1, further comprising security authentication and encryption logic programmed to apply security measures to said shared resource.

6. A plug and play system for wirelessly sharing files stored in mass storage comprising:

at least two personal computers having respective plug-and-play input/output ports, wherein at least one of said at least two personal computers comprises mass storage; and,

a wireless mass storage reflector coupled to one of said at least two personal computers through a respective one of said plug-and-play input/output ports, and a companion wireless mass storage reflector coupled to another of said at least two personal computers through a respective one of said plug-and-play input/output ports, said reflectors having a wireless communicative coupling to each other;

whereby said personal computers are configured to share files stored in said mass storage device over said wireless communicative coupling without exposing a peer-to-peer wireless network to said at least two personal computers.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein said plug-and-play input/output ports comprises universal serial bus (USB) input/output ports.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein said at least one wireless data transceiver comprises a transceiver selected from the group consisting of a Bluetooth(TM) transceiver and an 802.11x transceiver.

9. A method for sharing files comprising the steps of:
- mapping file access to at least a portion of mass storage through a plug-and-play input/output port of a host computing device;
 - establishing a wireless communicative link with a companion wireless data transceiver and,
 - providing shared file access to said mapped portion of said mass storage of said host computing device to said companion wireless transceiver through said wireless communicative link so that said shared file access appears as plug-and-play mass storage from the perspective of a client computing device hosting said companion wireless transceiver.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein said mapping step comprises the steps of:
- specifying a selected portion of said mass storage externally from said host computing device;
 - locating said selected portion in a device ring of said host computing device; and,
 - mapping said selected portion for use by said client computing device.
11. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of encrypting exchanges of files through said wireless communicative link.
12. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of limiting access to said mass storage over said wireless data network link to authenticated users.

13. A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program for sharing files, the computer program comprising a routine set of instructions for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

mapping file access to at least a portion of mass storage through a plug-and-play input/output port of a host computing device;

establishing a wireless communicative link with a companion wireless data transceiver and,

providing shared file access to said mapped portion of said mass storage of said host computing device to said companion wireless transceiver through said wireless communicative link so that said shared file access appears as plug-and-play mass storage from the perspective of a client computing device hosting said companion wireless transceiver.

14. The machine readable storage of claim 13, wherein said mapping step comprises the steps of:

specifying a selected portion of said mass storage externally from said host computing device;

locating said selected portion in a device ring of said host computing device; and,

mapping said selected portion for use by said client computing device.

15. The machine readable storage of claim 13, further comprising the step of encrypting exchanges of files through said wireless communicative link.

16. The machine readable storage of claim 13, further comprising the step of limiting access to said mass storage over said wireless data network link to authenticated users.